

**2009 ANNUAL REPORT**

**MOAB INTERAGENCY FIRE CENTER**

**SOUTHEAST UTAH FIRE ORGANIZATION**



Poison Spider tamarisk RX

July, 2009

Moab BLM Fire Zone (Moab, Monticello, Price)

Manti LaSal National Forest

National Park Service Southern Utah Group

Utah State Southeast Area Forestry, Fire & State Lands

BIA Ute Mountain Field Office



## 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

### MOAB INTERAGENCY FIRE CENTER

### SOUTHEASTERN UTAH

885 S. Sand Flats Road, Moab, UT 84532 435-259-1850

**Dispatch Zone:** The Moab Interagency Fire Center (MIFC) is the dispatch center for southeast Utah which includes: the Canyon County BLM Fire Zone (Moab and Monticello Field Offices and the Price Field Office fire zone - BLM); the Manti-LaSal National Forest (USFS); Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands Southeast Area (SES); and the National Park Service Southeast Utah Group (NPS).

The dispatch area involves over 10 million acres of terrain that ranges from grasslands at 4000 feet to forested lands above 12,000 feet in elevation. Land status throughout the area is highly fragmented. We respond to an average of 300-400 incidents per year, with a fire season that extends throughout the year with prescribed fires in the spring, fall, and winter.

**Dispatch Staffing:** Although shorthanded, the Center performed well in 2009. The Lead F.S. Dispatcher left in December, 2008, for the BIA national office in Boise. The Assistant Center Manager left in May to return to the west (California) to be closer to his family. A new BLM Lead Dispatcher was hired in June, and a new State seasonal dispatcher was hired in April. There were a total of 21 detailers who worked in the Dispatch office in two-week intervals as initial attack dispatchers, aircraft dispatchers, and support dispatchers. They were all ordered on resource orders for the various fires occurring at the time. Local dispatchers assisted on night shifts.

**Dispatch Activity:** Activity was moderate. The first wildland fire of the year occurred on February 1<sup>st</sup> and the last occurred on November 21<sup>st</sup>. Resources responded to 227 wildfires, including 8 WFRBs (wildfire for resource benefit); 20 prescribed burns; 79 UTL/FAs (unable to locate after reported, and false alarms); 5 search and rescues; and 8 public assist incidents in the MIFC zone.

**Large Fires:** There were fifteen large fires (over 300 acres BLM/100 F.S.); including wildfires for resource benefit fires.

#### Large fires (7) :

Joe Hutch on the BLM was in a remote area by the Desolation Canyon area. It was remote and difficult to suppress. Total acres for this fire was 785.

Steamboat Mesa on BLM was 171 acres.

Tavaputs on BLM was 549 acres, also in a remote area by Desolation Canyon

Westwater complex consisting of three fires on both BLM and State lands totaled 337 acres.

Lockerby on State, Private, and BLM lands totaled 660 acres and was jointly managed by the State, San Juan County, and BLM. It threatened several ranches and crops. A variety of resources were used including aircraft, and heavy equipment.

West Scofield – State was on State and private lands on the west side of Scofield Reservoir. It was handled by the State using VFDs and fire department resources from surrounding cities as well as U.S. Forest Service and BLM supplying personnel and equipment. Air tankers and other aircraft were used as well as heavy equipment on the ground. Total acres were 251.

**Wildfire for Resource Benefit:** The Manti La-Sal National Forest placed eight fires in WFRB status, for a total of 4,332 acres burned for resource enhancement and improvement of forest health. The largest were Lake Fork for 2,121 acres and Tie Fork for 885 acres on the North zone; Cooper Springs at 1,320 acres and Duck

Lake for 650 acres on the South zone. Various local and off-unit overhead managed these fires on the North and South Zones.

The Sanpete Ranger District personnel were very active in the support of Lake Fork in working with the media and local residents.

**Prescribed Fire:** There were a total of 20 prescribed burns for 7,358 acres: 3 on State/private, 7 on Forest Service, 9 on BLM, and 1 on Park Service. The largest burn was the West Scofield burn on Forest and State lands on the west side of Scofield Reservoir for 2,689 acres. The Joes Valley RX burn accomplished 1,312 acres. Aerial ignition was used on the Blue Creek RX burn for 400 acres and Pack Creek with 190 acres. The BLM has several on-going projects including tamarisk removal and pile burning along the Colorado River corridor. The most spectacular was the Poison Spider burn just north of Moab for 8 acres (see front cover).

**Moab Helitack:** For 2009 the Moab helicopter, 206GH, started operations on June 3 and ended on September 15. The helicopter flew a total of 223 hours. There were 41 initial attack missions as well as supporting other fires by flying personnel in to and out of or flying cargo to firefighters, and mapping fires. In addition, there were six extended attack missions, one of which was off-district. There were 859 passengers transported; 35,578 gallons delivered; 76,911 pounds internal cargo transported and 67,587 pounds external cargo.

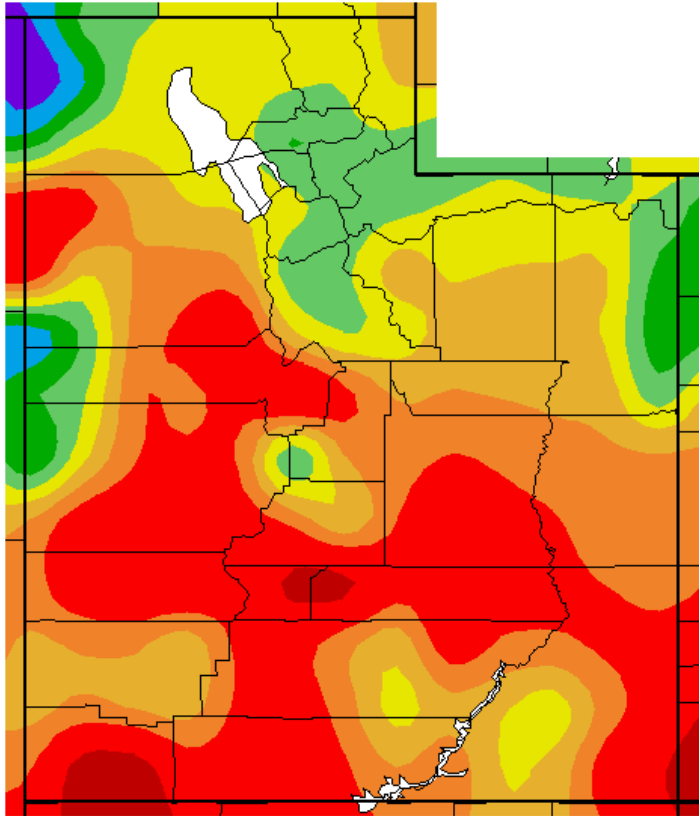
Moab helitack went on 2 search and rescue missions for Grand County and flew an injured person off the Porcupine Rim trail and one older person off Grand View Mountain in the LaSals.

<b>Agency:</b>	<b>BLM</b>	<b>USFS</b>	<b>NPS</b>	<b>State/County</b>
Total flight Hours	104.4	103.3	.8	14.6
Project Flight Hours	4.5	0	0	0
Off Unit Flight Hours	15.3	24	0	0

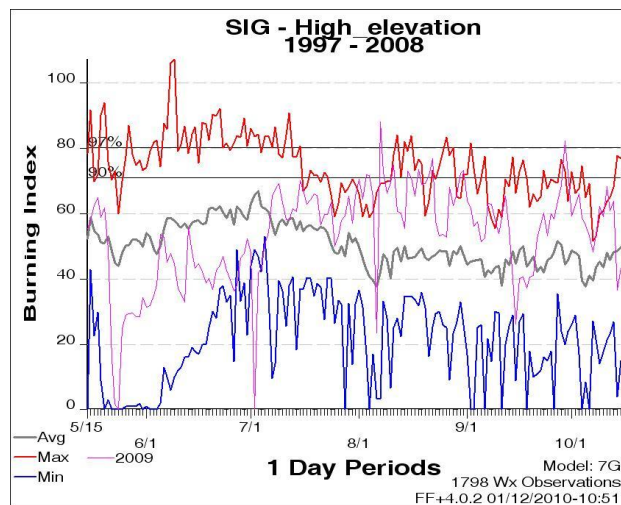
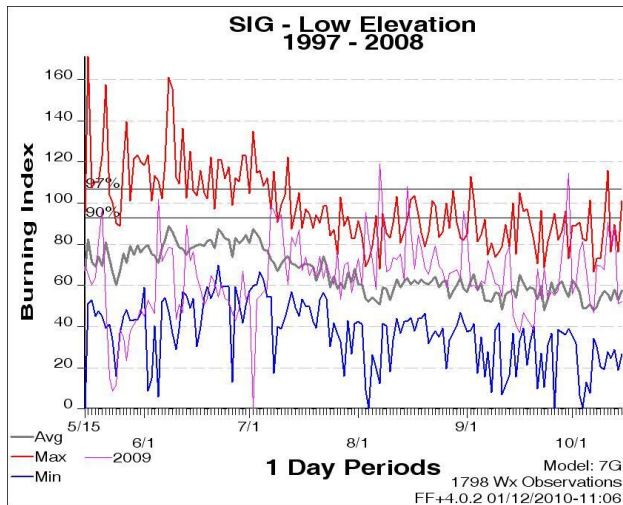
**Weather:** The water year of 2008/2009 was below average, with several major rain incidents. In November, 2008, there were heavy rains during the Thanksgiving week. Also, the end of May, 2009, extensive rain storms causing localized flooding. There was a lack of rain during the rest of the water year. In Moab, the water year was 70% of average. The monsoon season was nominal consequently there were fewer thunderstorms with less lightning.

Our ERC/BI charts indicating potential fire behavior for our high and low elevations are shown below. Early July through the middle of September we were above the average percentile for the BIs for high elevation and low elevation. For October, there were times it was above average. The ERC component also showed the same pattern, bumping the maximum (97% percentile) in August and part of September and again being above average for part of October.

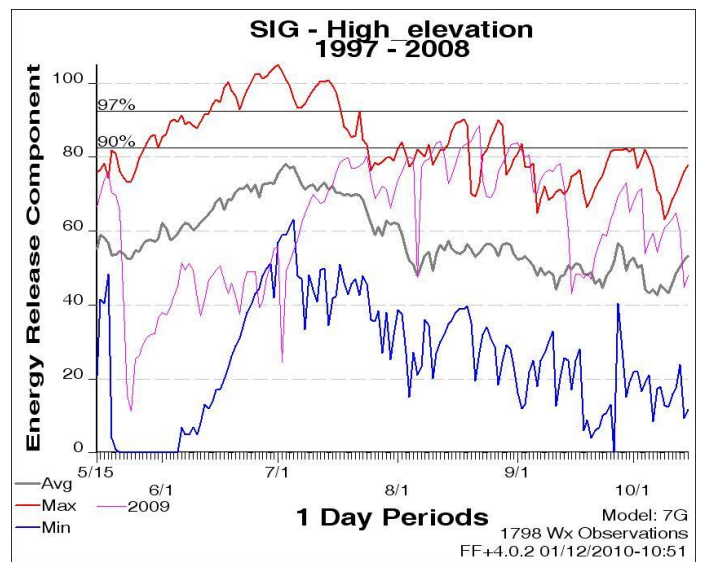
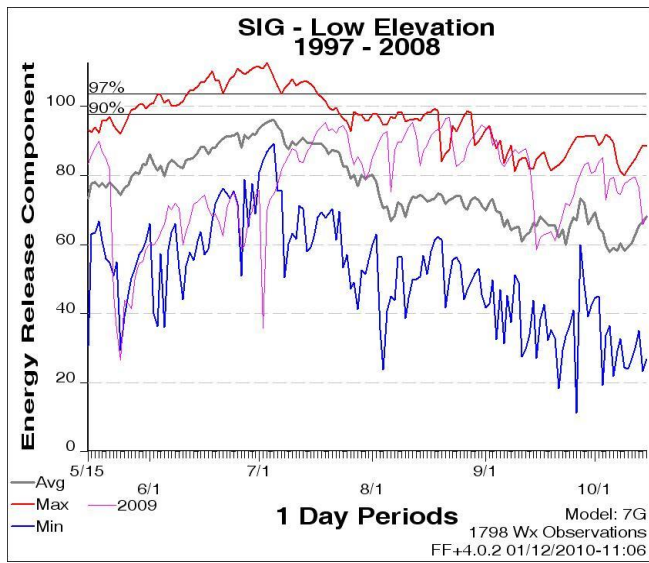
Percent of Average Precipitation (%)  
1/9/2009 – 1/8/2010



Generated 1/09/2010 at WRCC using provisional data.  
NOAA Regional Climate Centers







Tie Fork WFRB



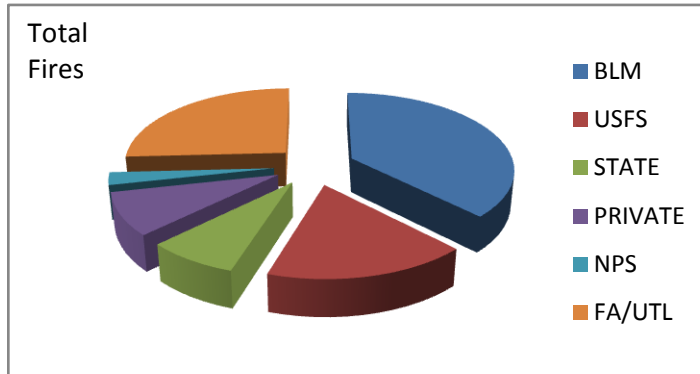
Lake Fork WFRB

## MIFC 2009 FIRE SEASON

12/10/2009

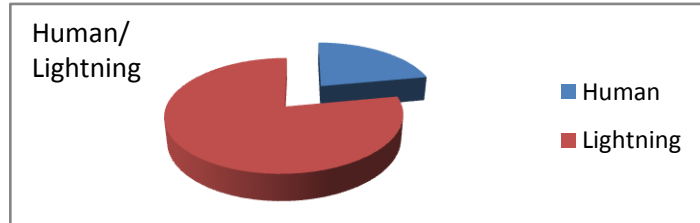
### # Fires

BLM	115
USFS	53
STATE	24
PRIVATE	27
NPS	8
FA/UTL	79
	306



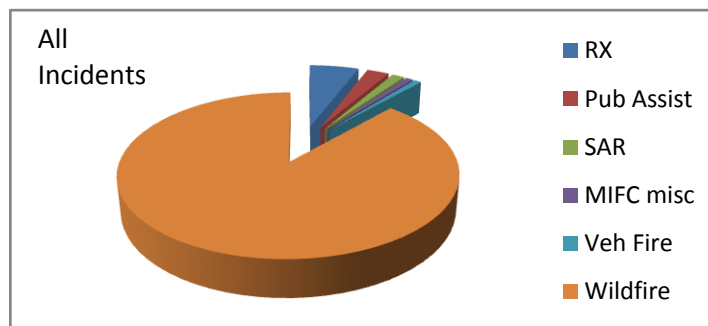
### Human/Lightning

Human	50
Lightning	177
	227



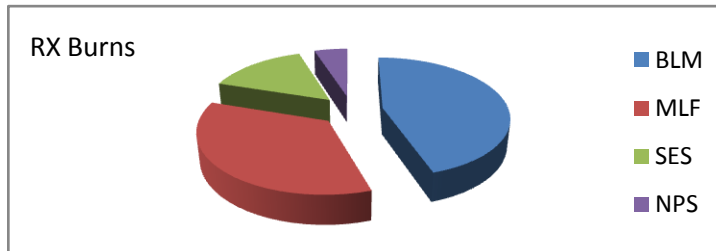
### All Incidents

RX	20
Pub	
Assist	9
SAR	5
MIFC	
misc	3
Veh Fire	3
Wildfire	306
	346



### RX Burns

BLM	9
MLF	7
SES	3
NPS	1
	20



## MIFC FIRE ACRES

12/10/2009

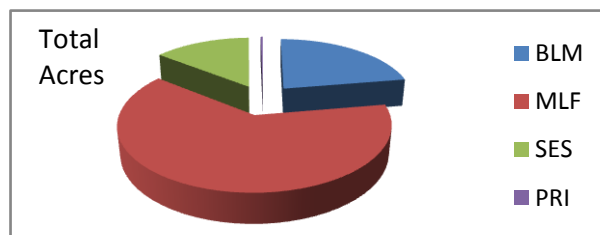
BLM ACRES	
Human	3.2
Lightning	1817.5
	1820.7

MLF	
Human	98.7
Lightning	5051.9
	5150.6

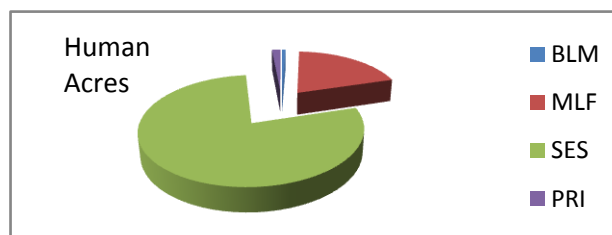
SES	PRI	
Human	392.5	7.5
Lightning	754.7	16.45
	1147.2	23.95

NPS	
Lightning	1

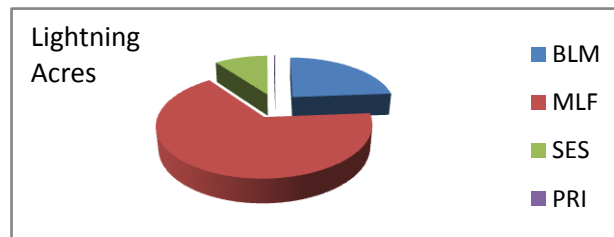
BLM	1,820.7
MLF	5150.5
SES	1147.2
PRI	23.9
NPS	1
	8,143.3



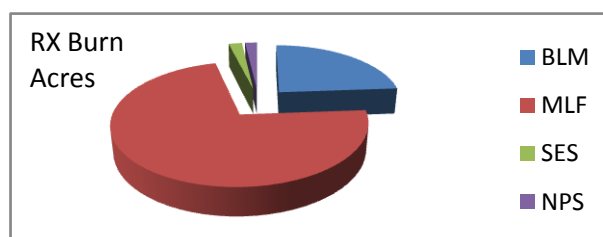
Human acres	
BLM	3.2
MLF	98.7
SES	392.5
PRI	7.5
	501.9



Lightning Acres	
BLM	1817.5
MLF	5054.9
SES	754.7
PRI	16.45
NPS	1
	7644.55



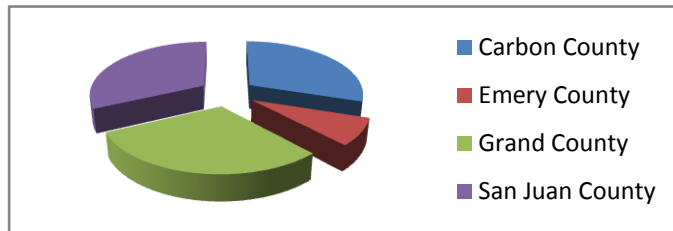
RX Burn Acres	
BLM	1754.5
MLF	5316
SES	152
NPS	135
	7357.5



## STATE/PRIVATE # FIRES BY COUNTY

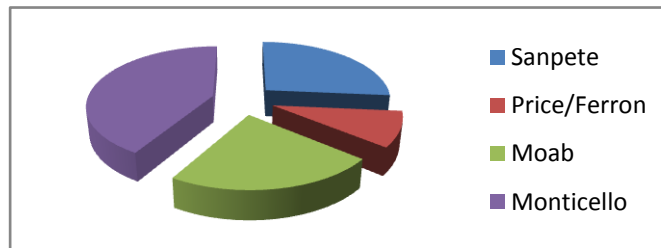
12/10/2009

Carbon County	15
Emery County	4
Grand County	15
San Juan County	16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50</b>



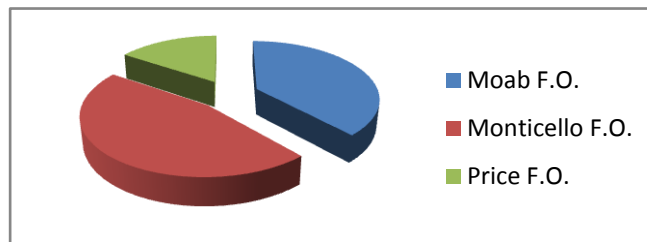
## MANTI-LASAL N.F. BY RANGER DISTRICT

Sanpete	14
Price/Ferron	5
Moab	12
Monticello	22
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>53</b>



## BLM by Field Office

Moab F.O.	44
Monticello F.O.	53
Price F.O.	18
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>115</b>





### 10-YEAR AVERAGE FIRE OCCURRENCE

YEAR	USFS	BLM	NPS	SES/PRI	BIA	TOTAL
2000	128	176	6	114	5	429
2001	72	77	6	58	1	214
2002	64	107	6	80	0	257
2003	106	117	6	102	0	331
2004	49	164	7	64	0	284
2005	53	87	6	47	2	195
2006	63	115	5	83	3	269
2007	54	84	3	64	0	205
2008	32	70	7	57	0	166
2009	53	115	8	51	0	227
<b>Total</b>	621	997	60	669	11	2350
10-YR AV	62	99.7	6	66.9	1	235

### 10-YEAR AVERAGE FIRE ACRES BY YEAR

YEAR	USFS	BLM	NPS	SES/PRI	BIA	TOTAL
2000	208.0	965.0	100	2,421.0	4	3,698.0
2001	171.0	112.1	11	88.0	0	382.1
2002	13,772.8	54,223.7	14.75	44,770.0	0	112,781.2
2003	2,952.7	820.3	0.6	403.1	887	5,063.7
2004	246.0	4,087.0	29	174.0	0	4,536.0
2005	246.1	4,087.1	29.5	173.9	0	4,536.5
2006	6,104.2	5,465.4	0.5	1,429.0	0	12,999.0
2007	8,743.8	1,901.2	0.4	1,262.5	0	11,907.8
2008	3,391.3	323.5	127.35	746.4	0	4,588.5
2009	5,153.5	1,820.7	1	1,171.2	0	8,146.4
<b>Total</b>	40,989.3	73,805.8	314.1	52,638.8	891	168,639.0
10-YR AV	4,074.3	6,971.8	28.5	5,246.5	89.1	16,410.3

## SUMMARY YEAR-TO-DATE REQUEST TRANSACTIONS

Actions "From" Selected Dispatch Organization by Catalog

From Organization Name: Moab Interagency Fire Center

Reg Catalog Name	Enter	Delete	Place	Retrieve	Fill	Unfill	Re-assign	Release	Cancel	Cancel UTF	UTF
Aircraft	142	2	96	6	55	1	20	97	17	8	0
Crew	49	0	30	4	22	0	22	19	10	1	0
Equipment	204	0	63	12	157	2	48	146	5	1	0
Overhead	409		200	12	261	4	184	246	29	3	40
	*(893)		*(456)	*(26)	*(533)	*(1)	*(397)	*(439)	*(8)	*(4)	*(13)
Summary	801	2	389	33	498	7	274	508	61	13	40

\* The number in parentheses ( ) represents the people assigned to crews, equipment, and aircraft that are included in other catalogs.

Of the orders for Aircraft:

Airtankers (Type 1,2,3,4)	38
Fixed wing	33
Helicopters (Type 1,2,3)	32
TFRs	3

For Crews:

Type 1	21
Type 2	4
Type 2IA	14

For Equipment:

Dozers	4
Engines	139
Strike Team Engines	6
Ambulances	2
RAWS kit	1
Water Tenders	14
Command trailers	2
Transp. Vehicle	25

For Overhead – too many to list	409
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USDA-Forest Service		<b>UNIT</b>	
<b>PERSONNEL EMPLOYED ON WILDFIRE PRESUPPRESSION AND SUPPRESSION ACTIVITIES</b>		Manti La Sal NF	
		<b>CALENDAR YEAR</b>	
		2009	
<p><b>INSTRUCTIONS:</b> 1. Data for items 1a, 1b, and 2b should be taken from planning and budget records in the Supervisor's Office.</p> <p>2. Items 1c, 1d, 2b, and 2c may be obtained from actual records in the S.O. or from the Ranger District. If obtained from the Ranger having intimate knowledge on use of his personnel, these items may be estimated. Complete accuracy is not required.</p> <p>3. Item 3 may be estimated where large numbers of casuals are employed. Since each reemployment counts as a new employment, sufficient accuracy can be obtained by</p>			
ITEM NO.	ITEM	NUMBER	
		SUB-TOTAL	TOTAL
1.	Regular appointed personnel		
	a. Full-time fire management ( <i>20 pay periods or more</i> )	6	
	b. Part-time fire management	11	
	c. Others used on presuppression sometime during year	7	
	d. Others used on suppression ( <i>exclude those reported under a, b, or c</i> )	11	
	e. Total ( <i>a + b + c + d</i> )		35
2.	Seasonal or short-term personnel		
	a. Regular fire control ( <i>crews, firefighters, patrol, lookouts, etc.</i> )	48	
	b. Others ( <i>BD, KV, BR, R&amp;T, etc.</i> ) who spent time on fire control work	20	
	c. Emergency firefighters ( <i>exclude those reported under a or b</i> )	15	
	d. Total ( <i>a + b + c</i> )		83
3.	Total number of casuals employed on fire suppression ( <i>Each reemployment counts as an employment</i> )		4
4.	Number of casuals ( <i>included in Item 3</i> ) employed for first time ( <i>Ranger's estimate is adequate</i> )	4	
5.	GRAND TOTAL ( <i>1e + 2d + 3</i> )		122
REMARKS ( <i>if necessary</i> )			
SUBMITTED BY ( <i>Signature</i> )		TITLE	
		FMO	

Previous edition is obsolete.

**FS-5100-8 (10/85)**  
Microsoft Word 2000

## OWNERSHIP ACRES

Agency	Acres
BLM	6,100,980.7
DOD	2,534.6
NPS	414,879.4
Private	1,127,526.5
SITLA (State of UT School Trust Lands)	1,047,580.8
SL&F (State of Utah FF &SL)	18,714.4
Tribal	11,397.5
UDOT	337.5
UDWR (State of UT Div. of Wildlife Resources)	32,386.8
USFS	1,239,060.2
USP (Utah State Parks)	11,693.5
National Forest in Colorado	25,632.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,032,723.9</b>